

# TOWN OF LOOMIS

## Parks and Recreation Element

A discussion of parks and recreation would generally be included as a state requirement in the Open Space Element of the General Plan. However, the challenge of establishing recreational standards and opportunities to the community, and Loomis' commitment to providing a high level of public facilities and services, has prompted the desire for an individual Parks and Recreation Element.

Although separate, the Parks and Recreation Element is closely linked with the Open Space Element. Lands designated for parks and recreation uses provide an important component of the overall open space network. At the same time, open space areas of Loomis, while not classified as traditional "active" park lands, possess some recreational value. These open space areas represent an integral component of the Town's plan to provide both passive and active recreational opportunities.

The presence of plentiful, well-designed parks and recreation facilities contributes to the quality of life in the community. Parks provide a focus for a number of important recreational and social functions. In addition, parks help to preserve natural features and habitat areas vital to the Town's environmental health and sense of place.

**It is the underlying goal of the Parks and Recreation Element to provide a variety of both passive and active recreational opportunities for all Town residents.**

Adopted by Loomis Town Council 04/14/98 by Resolution No. 98-14  
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## **Setting**

The Town of Loomis encompasses several resources providing open space, natural scenery, bike trails and park and recreation opportunities. The Town currently administers one park site, and has contributed funds to the Loomis Unified School District to develop community recreation facilities at three of the area's schools.

The following is a listing of the park sites, types of facilities, acreage, and developmental status. (See Table 4. I, School Site Inventory.)

### **A) Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**

#### **1) Sunrise-Loomis Neighborhood Park**

The Sunrise-Loomis Neighborhood Park is located in the North Planning Area on Arcadia Avenue, located between Humphrey and Swetzer Roads. This park is approximately four acres in size and has limited development. The park features mostly turf open space areas with two softball backstops and a small playground with adjacent picnic area.

#### **2) Loomis Elementary School**

Loomis Elementary School is located in the North Planning Area at the southeast intersection of Taylor and King Roads. The total area of the school grounds is about seven acres. The total area utilized for recreational facilities is about 3.5 acres. The Town of Loomis has contributed funds to the School District for the development of the community recreation facilities at the school. Recreation facilities include two softball/little league fields, two volleyball courts, three basketball courts, a running track with turf infield, playground and tot lot. All of the recreation facilities are maintained by the Loomis Elementary School District under a joint use agreement with the Town.

#### **3) Franklin Elementary School**

The Town of Loomis has also contributed funds towards the development of recreation facilities at the Franklin Elementary School, located in the South Planning Area on Laird Road. This school is not within the Town limits, but is located adjacent to the Town's boundaries on the east. The facilities developed on this school site will be inventoried and assumed to be part of the Town's recreation facilities, since the Town has contributed funding to this site for development. The total area of the school grounds is approximately 11.5 acres with the recreation facilities located on about 4.2 acres of this total. Park and recreation facilities at this school include a children's play ground, a separate tot lot, two softball fields, a running track with a turf infield used for soccer and other field sports, two volleyball courts, 2.5 basketball courts and an open turf field for multi-play activities.

**TABLE 4.1  
SCHOOL SITE INVENTORY**

Facility Type	Del Oro High School	Loomis Elementary	Franklin Elementary	Placer School	H. Clarke Powers Elementary
Football Field	1	-	-	-	-
Soccer Field	2	2	2	-	2
Running Track	1	1	1	1	-
Ball Fields	3	2	2	-	2
Basketball Hard Courts	4 -	3 2	2.5 2	4 4	- -
Volleyball	4	2	2	2	-
Tennis Courts	5	-	-	-	-
Swimming Pool	1	-	-	-	-
Playground	-	1	1	1	-
Tot Lot	-	1	1	1	-
Gymnasium	1	1	1	-	-
Multi-Purpose Fields	1	1	1	2	-
<i>Approximate Acreage Available for Recreation Use</i>	25	3.5	4.2	3.5	6.5

**4) Placer School**

**5) H. Clark Powers School**

This elementary school, located on Humphrey Road, is currently in the developmental stage. The school facilities are proposed to be constructed by 1998. The Town of Loomis has contributed funds towards the development of park and recreation facilities at this school. The facilities constructed include two ball fields and two "overlay" soccer fields. The total acreage of the school site is 15 acres; the area of the recreation fields is approximately 6.5 acres.

## **B) School Resources**

The Town of Loomis is located within the Loomis Union School District. This School District includes the entire Town area, as well as substantial areas outside of the current incorporated boundaries. The Loomis Union School District boundaries extend to the southeast of the Town boundaries to the Placer County line. Four elementary schools (as identified in the preceding section and Placer School) currently have developed recreation facilities used by the Town residents; the facilities at the three schools listed above have been funded by a partnership between the Town and the School District. These local elementary school grounds provide some of the only developed recreation spaces and facilities for the residents of Loomis.

Del Oro High School, located to the east of the Town center in the North Planning Area, provides a significant recreation resource to the Town. The high school has the most significant concentration of recreational facilities in the area and also serves as a regional recreation source with its swimming pool and large gymnasium. The school principal has recently opened discussions with the Town Council to determine if a joint use agreement might be possible as with the elementary schools within the Town.

Sierra Community College, located to the southwest of the Town of Loomis at Rocklin Road and Sierra College Boulevard, also provides for significant recreation facilities which may be accessed by the residents of the Town. The College does not promote recreational use of their facilities by the general public; however, the facilities, and especially the fields and trails at the College are often used by the residents in and around the area. During the course of this plan it was learned that the college owns lands intended for a future park/recreation project. Although outside of Town boundaries, the possibility exists that a joint Town-College agreement could be arranged to jointly develop the property.

## **C) Recreation Programs**

At the present time, the Town of Loomis does not officially sponsor or offer recreation programs to the general public. Recreation activities and programs are provided to the residents of Loomis by a variety of community organizations and clubs, such as Little League, Youth Soccer, the Loomis Dolphins Swim Team, Basketball, Wrestling and other volunteer-run organizations. The large majority of these organizations utilize the facilities at Del Oro High School and the four elementary schools in Loomis for the facility space needs to support these activities.

In Loomis, there are several different community meeting facilities and other "quasi-public" buildings used to house some of the different recreation and leisure-interest programs enjoyed by the residents of Loomis. Most often mentioned among these facilities are the Loomis Volunteer Fire Department buildings, the Veteran's Memorial building and the Loomis Grange Hall. These buildings are often used for a variety of community programs and activities.

Outside of the Town of Loomis boundaries, the City of Roseville has a well developed park and recreation program with a multitude of recreation program offerings and activities. Other programs in adjacent communities such as the City of Rocklin and even programs offered by the City of Folsom are attended by Loomis residents.

The two most popular recreation programs for youth in and around the Town of Loomis are Little League and Youth Soccer. Contacts with the league representatives for each of these programs indicated that they do not maintain records for enrollment in and outside of the Town's boundaries. For Little League, the league registrar indicated that there were about 183 players in the South Placer League area (including the Town of Loomis, Penny and Offer) and about 700 in the Lakeside League area (includes Granite Bay areas). The teams within both of these areas compete against one another and also utilize the fields and facilities in and around the Town of Loomis for their games.

Participation in soccer continues to gain in popularity. For the 1996 season, the total attendance in youth soccer exceeded about 735 players with over 35 teams fielded. The areas where youth soccer players are registered include the Town of Loomis, Penny and Offer, Granite Bay and other areas in Southeast Placer County.

Other popular sports in the Town of Loomis include swimming at Del Oro High School (Loomis Dolphins Swim Team), basketball for youth and adults, gymnastics and other activities. Most of these activities take place in or at school facilities or at other quasi-public facilities such as the Veteran's Memorial Hall. (Refer to the Park and Recreation Inventory, Appendix A.)

The sports leagues and organizations contacted during the Master Plan update process indicated that the fields and facilities currently available at the few Town and County parks, and also at the schools, are generally sufficient. At times, there are scheduling problems and during some seasons of the year, the concurrent use of soccer fields which overlay softball fields is not possible. However, all leagues and teams experience difficulty in scheduling practice times and games at "optimum" times due to the demands placed on the few existing facilities.

#### **D) Additional Regional or Area-wide Recreation Resources**

In addition to parks and school facilities within the Town of Loomis, recreational opportunities are provided by the following sources:

##### **1) Bikeways**

As part of the County Bikeway System, the Town of Loomis has bikeways designated within its borders. (See the Existing Features Map.) There is currently only one developed bicycle path within Loomis along King Road; however, the County's Trails Master Plan designates a bicycle path(s) in the following locations: 1) Auburn-Folsom Road; 2) Taylor Road; 3) King Road; 4) Sierra College Boulevard; and 6) Cavitt-Stallman Road.

##### **2) Natural Streams and Trails**

The boundaries of the Town of Loomis include two major stream courses which have the potential for the future implementation of trails and pathways along their alignments. These stream "corridors" become important because they often provide relatively uninterrupted alignments between area and regional recreation facilities located within and outside of the Town boundaries.

Antelope Creek is located to the north of Highway 80 in the Loomis North Planning Area. In the far north area of the Town of Loomis, Antelope Creek parallels Swetzer Road for some distance and then runs to the southwest to where it passes under King Road immediately east of its intersection with Sierra College Boulevard. The Antelope Creek alignment is important in that it potentially connects the northeast areas of the Town of Loomis, Penryn and possibly even to Roseville. Antelope Creek is also a tributary of Dry Creek and provides additional opportunities for a multi-purpose open space corridor along Dry Creek, and its upstream tributaries which provide for flood protection, open space and habitat management and for recreation trails and pathways.

Secret Ravine Creek is the other major creek corridor located in the Town of Loomis. Located south of Highway 80 and roughly paralleling it, Secret Ravine Creek also provides for potential connections to local and regional recreation facilities. Mormon Park and Loomis Basin Regional Park, both located east of the Town limits of Loomis, are located on Secret Ravine Creek. Secret Ravine Creek is also a tributary of Dry Creek and is designated as a possible trail connector in several different County transportation and recreation planning documents. The Placer County Transportation Agency has designated Secret Ravine Creek as a Class 1 bicycle corridor in their regional bicycle transportation plan. This Class I designation extends from the Loomis Basin Regional Park west into the City of Roseville. Secret Ravine Creek is also designated as a proposed trail corridor in the Loomis Basin Horsemen's Association Trails Master Plan.

### **3) Regional Recreation Facilities**

Residents of the Town of Loomis have access to several unique regional recreation opportunities, such as Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, the American River Parkway and many private and municipal golf courses.

Located to the southeast of the Town of Loomis, the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area (FLSRA) encompasses more than 30,000 acres of natural areas, 18,000 acres of lake area, lake shoreline, camping, more than 80 miles of trails and other features. The two primary access points to the FLSRA for residents of Loomis are at Beals Point and at the Granite Bay access. Each of these areas include developed beaches, boating access, parking areas, camping and picnic facilities and concessions. Another lake access area located to the east of the Town is at the Rattlesnake Bar access. This area features boat launching, camping and trail access points. This area can be accessed from Rattlesnake Bar Road. These areas are heavily used during the summer months and at times are closed due to overcrowding. A regional trail connection is also located at Beals Point and Granite Bay and provides a connection from these areas to the American River Parkway along the north shore of Lake Natoma to the lower American River Parkway trail system.

Several notable golf courses are located in and around the Town of Loomis. These include the Indian Creek Country Club on Barton Road, Twelve Bridges in Lincoln, Granite Bay, Sunset Whitney, Woodcreek Oaks and others in the surrounding areas.

Other notable regional park and recreation resources include the Loomis Basin Regional Park located immediately east of the Town on King Road, the Griffith Quarry Historic Park on Rock Springs Road, and Mormon Park located off of Boulder Creek Road.

#### **4) Hiking and Equestrian Trails Town of Loomis Town Council**

There are several trail corridors that are designated within the Town of Loomis. (See Existing Features Map.) Placer County has adopted a trails master plan and several community plans in the areas adjacent to the Town which designate trails and pathways along roadways, creeks and other geographic features. In the General Plan for the Town of Loomis, the Open Space Element and Conservation Element designates open space designations along the major creek corridors in Loomis. These corridors become natural opportunities for pathways and trails in many locations.

Trails are designated by the Town and County in the following areas:

##### **a) Town Area Northwest of 1-80**

- English Colony Road from Sierra College Boulevard on west to Town of Penryn on east

##### **b) Town Area Southeast of 1-80**

- Secret Ravine Creek from Loomis Basin Regional Park west to Brace Road
- Horseshoe Bar Road from intersection with Barton Road east to Folsom Lake in Lakeshore Area
- Barton Road south to Placer County line
- Wells Avenue to Val Verde Road
- King Road east to Lakeshore neighborhood and Folsom Lake

In addition to these trails, Placer County and the Loomis Basin Horseman's Association have officially designated equestrian trails in the area. Trails are designated along the following roads:

**South of I-80:** Brace Road, Barton Road, Laird Road, King Road, and the area along Secret Ravine Creek. In most other areas, the narrow road sections present problems to trail users. However, creek beds, shoulders of roads and the general openness of much of the Service Area offers many places to walk, hike and ride horses.

#### **5) Private Community Recreation Facilities**

Additional recreational opportunities can be provided by quasi-public and private community recreational facilities. The Red Brick Art Center, Splitz Gymnastics and McLaughlin Studios are examples of recreational facilities offered by commercial interests in the Town. In addition, the Heritage Group is investigating the potential of utilizing the fruit sheds for private recreational facilities. Expansion of these opportunities could be realized with the development of such facilities as a museum, theaters and other private recreational resources.

## **E) Park Definitions and Standards**

### **1) Park Definitions**

#### **a) Mini Park**

Mini parks are generally less than two acres in size and are designed to serve a concentrated or limited population. They are often developed for a unique or single purpose such as a recreation facility for a neighborhood, a recreation or eating location for employment uses or to preserve an isolated open space resource such as a small clustering of oak trees. Typical improvements at mini parks are play areas, picnic tables and landscaping. Desirable locations for mini parks are within neighborhoods and in close proximity to small lot and higher density residential development, including apartments, condominium complexes and housing for the elderly. Mini parks are also appropriate within business districts.

#### **b) Neighborhood Park**

A neighborhood park can be generally defined as a landscaped park of limited size for passive recreation of all ages, but with designated active areas. Neighborhood parks provide scenic and aesthetic value. Typical improvements found at neighborhood parks include athletic fields, multi-use turf areas, hard courts and playground equipment. Neighborhood parks fall into two categories: those adjacent to school sites and those not located adjacent to school sites. In general, those facilities located adjacent to school sites are larger (typically 6-8 acres) and provide more active facilities, while those located away from school sites are smaller (approximately 5 acres) and provide more passive facilities, such as picnicking, turf areas and some natural areas.

#### **c) City-wide (Regional) Park**

City-wide parks are identified as unique recreational centers serving the entire urban population. These consist of extensive park areas that provide service and facilities that are specialized or of City-wide or regional interest. Typical facilities may include large open space areas, large group picnic facilities, rest rooms, nature centers, trail system, scenic drives, campgrounds, community centers, libraries, swimming pools, water-oriented facilities for boating, swimming and fishing competitive sports fields, outdoor arenas, play equipment for varied age groups, tennis courts and concessions. City-wide parks may be located adjacent to high schools.

### **2) Park Standards**

The following standards shall generally apply in the development of parks and recreation facilities:

**Table 4.2**  
**Park Standards**

Components	Neighborhood Park	Community Park	City-Wide Park
Acreage/1,000 Population	2.5 Acres	1.5 Acres	5 Acres
Desired Size	5-8 Acres	25-40 Acres	50-100+ Acres
Population Served	2,000-3000	20,000-50,000	50,000+
Service Area	1/4-1/2 mile	1-2 miles	*

\* geographically dispersed throughout the community



## **F) Goals and Policies**

### **1) Public Recreation and Parks**

Goal: To develop and maintain a system of conveniently-located, properly-designed parks and recreational facilities to serve the needs of present and future residents, employees, and visitors.

Policies:

a) The Town shall strive to achieve and maintain a standard of five acres of improved parkland and five acres of passive recreation area or open space per 1,000 population.

b) The Town shall strive to achieve the following park facility standards:

- (1) 1 tot lot per 1,000 residents
- (2) 1 playground per 3,000 residents
- (3) 1 tennis court per 6,000 residents
- (4) 1 basketball court per 6,000 residents
- (5) 1 hardball diamond per 3,000 residents
- (6) 1 softball/little league diamond per 3,000 residents
- (7) 1 mile of recreation trail per 1,000 residents
- (8) 1 youth soccer field per 2,000 residents
- (9) 1 adult soccer field per 2,000 residents
- (10) 1 golf course per 50,000 residents

c) The Town shall require new development to provide a minimum of five acres of improved parkland and five acres of passive recreation area or open space for every 1,000 new residents of the area covered by the development. The park classification system shown in Table 4-3 should be used as a guide to the type of the facilities to be developed in achieving these standards.

d) The Town shall consider the use of the following open space areas as passive parks to be applied to the requirement for five acres of passive park area for every 1,000 residents.

- (1) Floodways
- (2) Protected riparian corridors and stream environment zones
- (3) Protected wildlife corridors
- (4) Greenways with the potential for trail development
- (5) Open water (e.g., ponds, lakes, and reservoirs)
- (6) Protected woodland areas
- (7) Protected sensitive habitat areas providing that interpretive displays are provided (e.g., wetlands and habitat for rare, threatened or endangered species)

Buffer areas are not considered as passive park areas if such areas are delineated by setbacks within private property. Where such areas are delineated by public easements or are held as common areas with homeowner/property owner access or public access, they will be considered as passive park areas provided that there are opportunities for passive recreational use.

e) The Town shall require the dedication of land and/or payment of fees, in accordance with state law (Quimby Act) to ensure funding for the acquisition and development of public recreation facilities. The fees are to be set and adjusted as necessary to provide for a level of funding that meets the actual cost to provide for all of the public parkland and park development needs generated by new development.

f) The Town shall coordinate funding and programs administered by the County schools and other agencies to obtain optimum recreation facilities development.

g) The Town will encourage creation of assessment districts when appropriate or other types of districts to generate funds for the acquisition and development, maintenance and administration of parkland and/or historical properties as development occurs.

h) The Town shall strive to maintain a well-balanced distribution of local parks, considering the character and intensity of present and planned development and future recreation needs.

i) The Town shall give priority to early acquisition of park sites in newly-developing areas through many means including the use of public icing or land dedication.

j) The Town shall ensure that park design is appropriate to the recreational needs and, where feasible, access capabilities of all residents, employees and visitors.

k) Regional and local recreation facilities should reflect the character of the area and the existing and anticipated demand for such facilities.

l) The Town shall encourage recreational development that complements the natural features of the area, including the topography, waterways, vegetation, and soil characteristics.

m) The Town shall be directly involved in the development and operation of community and neighborhood park facilities. These include outdoor recreation facilities to support traditional pursuits such as baseball, soccer, basketball, hiking, walking, riding and picnicking.

n) The Town shall encourage privatization where possible to provide recreation services.

o) The Town shall encourage compatible recreational use of riparian areas along streams and creeks where public access can be balanced with environmental values and private property rights.

p) The Town shall require that park and recreation facilities required in conjunction with new development be developed in a timely manner so that such facilities are available concurrently with new development.

q) The Town shall work with local, state, and federal agencies to implement a balanced and comprehensive recreation program.

**Table 4.3**  
**Park Classification System**

Park Type	Use Description	Desirable Site Characteristics
Mini-Park (2 acres or less)	Specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group, such as children or senior citizens	Within neighborhoods and close to high-density housing or housing for the elderly
Neighborhood Park (2 to 15 acres)	Area for intense recreational activities, such as field games, court games, playground apparatus, skating, picnicking	Easily accessible to neighborhood population (geographically centered with safe walking and bike access)
Community Park (15 or more acres)	Area of diverse environmental quality. May include areas suited for intense recreational activities. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, and picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending on site suitability and community need	May include natural features, such as water bodies. Easily accessible to neighborhood served
Linear Park	Area developed for one or more modes of travel, such as hiking, biking, horse-back riding, or cross-country skiing	Built or natural corridors, such as utility rights-of-way, that link other elements of the recreation system or community facilities, such as school, libraries, commercial areas, and other park areas
Special Use	Areas for specialized or single-purpose recreational activities, such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, arenas, outdoor theaters, downhill ski areas, or areas that preserve, maintain, and interpret buildings, sites, and objects of archaeological significance. Also boulevards and parkways	
Conservancy Areas	Protection and management of the natural/cultural environment with recreation use as a secondary objective	Variable, depending on the resource being protected

## 1.1) Implementation Measures

a) The town shall maintain a comprehensive inventory of all parks and recreation areas and services in the Town and identify other areas suitable for park acquisition and development.

Responsibility: Planning Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: As funds are available

b) Actively work towards the adoption of the Park Implementation Plan with adequate staffing to administer the park and recreation services proposed by the Master Plan.

Responsibility: Town Council and Town Manager  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: Developer agreements, impact fees, general fund

c) With any new development applications, provide an overall ratio of 10 acres of park and open space lands to each new 1,000 persons in the town in a proportion of at least five acres of passive park/open space lands and five acres of active park lands. For park lands, provide three acres of neighborhood park and two acres of community park per one thousand residents.

Responsibility: Planning Commission and Planning Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: Development fees and Quimby Act

d) Work cooperatively with the County and any present or future recreation districts, school districts or other park agencies, and other jurisdictions and organizations to plan, acquire, develop and manage park and recreation facilities and services.

Responsibility: Town Manager  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

e) Assist any present or future recreation districts, school districts or other park agencies in the identification and preservation of community and regional open space areas such as the Dry Creek Parkway and its tributaries, including Antelope Creek and Secret Ravine Creek.

Responsibility: Planning Commission and Planning Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

f) Provide a linkage of the community's park and recreational facilities, where possible, with those of the regional recreation resources such as trails, open spaces and regional parks.

Responsibility: Planning Commission and Planning Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

g) In cooperation with private organizations, encourage a broad range of recreation programs to meet the needs of all age groups and the special needs of the elderly and handicapped.

Responsibility: Planning Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

h) Take full advantage of outside funding sources such as Federal, State, and private grants and foundations to assist in the acquisition, development and management of the park and recreation system.

Responsibility: Town Manager  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

i) Promote active citizen participation in implementing the Master Plan, in planning and development of the park system, and encourage the participation of volunteers to supplement staff.

Responsibility: Planning Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

j) Adopt an ordinance to implement the Quimby Act for park land dedication or compensation in lieu of land dedication.

Responsibility: Town Council  
Time Frame: May, 1998  
Funding: None

k) Adopt a revised development impact fee for recreation equal to the Placer County fee of \$1,228 per single family dwelling with annual adjustments for inflation as with the county fee.

Responsibility: Town Council  
Time Frame: May, 1998  
Funding: None

## **2) Recreational Trails**

Goals: To develop a system for the Town and its surrounding area of interconnected hiking, riding, and bicycling trails and paths suitable for active recreation and transportation and circulation.

### Policies:

- a) The Town shall support development of a county wide trail system designed to achieve the following objectives:

- (1) Provide safe, pleasant, and convenient travel by foot, horse, or bicycle;
- (2) Link residential areas, schools, community buildings, parks, and other community facilities within residential developments. Whenever possible, trails should connect to the countywide trail system, regional trails, and the trail or bikeways plans of cities;
- (3) Provide access to recreation areas, major waterways, and vista points;
- (4) Provide for multiple uses (i.e., pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle, skater, etc.);
- (5) Use public utility corridors such as power transmission line easements, railroad rights-of-ways, irrigation district easements, and roadways;
- (6) Whenever feasible, be designed to separate equestrian trails from cycling paths, and to separate trails from the roadway by the use of curbs, fences, landscape buffering, and/or spatial distance;
- (7) Connect commercial areas, major employment centers, institutional uses, public facilities, and recreational areas with residential areas; and
- (8) Protect sensitive open space and natural resources.

b) The Town shall support the integration of public trail facilities into the design of flood control facilities and other public works projects whenever possible.

c) The Town shall work with other public agencies to coordinate the development of equestrian, pedestrian, and bicycle trails.

d) The Town shall require the proponents of new development to dedicate rights-of-way and/or the actual construction of segments of the countywide trail system.

## **2.1) Implementation Measures**

a) The Town should prepare and periodically update a trails plan in conjunction with the General Plan. Trail plans should designate trail components for equestrians, hikers, and bicyclists; contain trail design, access, and construction standards; establish specific plan lines for trails; and identify financing options.

Responsibility:	Planning Department
Time Frame:	1998-99 ongoing, as funds are available
Funding:	General Fund

## **3) Cultural Resources**

Goal: To identify, protect, and enhance the Town of Loomis' important historical, archaeological, paleontological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment.

Policies:

- a) The Town shall assist its citizens in becoming active guardians of their community's cultural resources.
- b) The Town shall solicit the cooperation of the owners of cultural and paleontological resources, encourage those owners to treat these resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage the support of the general public for the preservation and enhancement of these resources.
- c) The Town shall solicit the views of the Native American Heritage Commission and/or the local Native American community in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance.
- d) The Town shall use, where feasible, incentive programs to assist private property owners in preserving and enhancing cultural resources.
- e) The Town shall require that discretionary development projects identify and protect from damage, destruction, and abuse, important historical, archaeological, paleontological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment.
- f) The Town shall require that discretionary development projects are designed to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological or cultural resources whenever possible.
- g) The Town shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts.
- h) The Town shall use the State Historic Building Code to encourage the preservation of historic structures.
- i) The Town will use existing legislation for the identification and protection of cultural resources and their contributing environment.

**3.1) Implementation Measures**

- a) The Town shall consider adopting and implementing procedures for review and approval of all town-permitted projects involving ground disturbance and all building and/or demolition permits that will affect historic buildings, structures, or objects.

Responsibility:	Planning Department
Time Frame:	Town Council, 1998-99
Funding:	Mitigation fees, permit fees

b) The town shall develop preservation incentive programs for owners of important cultural and paleontological resources, using such mechanisms as the Mills Act, the Historic Preservation Easement program, the Certified Local Government program, and the Heritage Tourism program.

Responsibility: Planning Department, Assessor  
Time Frame: 1998-99, ongoing  
Funding: Grants, General Fund

c) The Town shall coordinate and assist with private efforts to facilitate preservation of the locally-significant historical properties that do not qualify for State or Federal listings.

Responsibility: Planning Department and Town Manager  
Time Frame: 1998-99, ongoing  
Funding: General Funds, Grants

## **Park Planning Criteria**

### **A) Acquisition and Development Standards**

In order to determine the recreation facility needs of the Town's jurisdictional area, it is necessary to consider a number of factors within and surrounding the Town.

The most comprehensive standards developed for park and recreation facilities are those adopted by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). (See Appendix C, National Recreation Standards.) Briefly, the NRPA recognizes a standard of three acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks and two acres per 1,000 for community parks, resulting in an overall standard of five acres per 1,000 population. The NRPA standards were compiled over several years of research utilizing data from many different Cities and Counties nationwide. These standards, therefore, do not necessarily reflect the recreation needs of this particular area. However, they can be regarded as a point of reference from which to gauge standards appropriate for the community.

The principal reference for park planning in the Town of Loomis is the "Open Space and Recreation Element" an element of the 1987 Town of Loomis General Plan. This document provides general goals, policies, principals and standards for the acquisition, planning, and development of parks and recreational facilities in The Town of Loomis. The Town Recreation Element makes the following recommendation for park land dedications:

*The Park Standard should be a total of 10 acres of park land developed for each 1, 000 population. Of the 10 acres, six acres are to be developed as community and neighborhood parks and the remaining four acres are to be developed as a regional park.*

Another standard for providing adequate recreation and parks land in the Town is established by the Town's Subdivision Ordinance, as authorized in the Government Code by the Quimby Act. This standard determines the amount of park land dedication or in-lieu fees to be paid on new residential development in the Town of Loomis. The objective of this ordinance is to establish a minimum standard of five acres of neighborhood and community park land per 1,000 residents.



## **1) Acquisition Criteria**

Because it is not practical nor feasible to purchase all additional park sites simultaneously, an evaluation of the cost effectiveness of each site should include the following considerations:

- Minimum standard of 10 acres of parks per 1,000 people
- Minimum park size of two to three acres to ensure maintenance economy, cost efficiency, adequate supervision and recreational use
- Physical potential and limitations of the site
- Geographic relationship of the site to school sites, other parks, open spaces, creek/stream areas and circulation routes
- Possibility for expansion
- Population density and characteristics within the park service areas
- Accessibility of the site
- Cost of acquisition and development
- Availability of site for acquisition
- Public safety

These considerations become criteria since they provide a basis for making decisions regarding the selection of specific sites.

## **2) Planning Considerations**

### **a) Major Barriers**

Accessibility and location of neighborhood and community parks are major criteria which must be incorporated in the selection of park sites. If a typical neighborhood park can be "walked to," it is considered accessible. Neighborhood parks should be accessible to all residents, particularly younger children.

The Town of Loomis is crossed by many "barriers" such as Horseshoe Bar Road, Taylor Road, Sierra College Blvd., I-80, Secret Ravine Creek, Antelope Creek, the railroad tracks and King Road. The Existing Features Map shows the extent of these barriers within the Town.

## **b) Schools**

Unlike circulation routes, schools act as linkages rather than barriers in the planning and use of park and recreation spaces. As previously discussed, parks should be located adjacent to school sites where possible to maximize functional land use and recreation opportunities. The Town of Loomis has a long history of cooperative development with the Loomis School District. This relationship should definitely continue into the future and even be expanded on if, for example, additional park acreage is purchased by the Town adjacent to an existing school for a neighborhood or community park site.

## **c) Natural Streams and Open Spaces**

There are two prominent streams within the Town, Secret Ravine Creek and Antelope Creek. These drainage corridors provide an excellent resource for potentially linking park and recreation facilities within the Town and for passive recreation use. Acquisition of stream or open space easements should be considered when the potential exists to acquire a creek-open space area of substantial size and one which also will connect another Town or County recreation facility such as a park, hiking or equestrian trail, school, or another stream. If the acquisition of stream rights-of-way is carried out in a strategic and planned manner, the result can be an enjoyable network of both active and passive open space within the Town and potentially connecting to County and State Park facilities.

## **B) Park and Recreation Needs**

By evaluating the parks, school sites and other recreational facilities within the Town's planning areas, it is possible to determine relative levels of recreation services being provided throughout the community. This process also identifies areas deficient in park and recreation facilities.

To assess recreation acreage needs, it is necessary first to understand the meaning of the term. Recreation acreage is that land available for "usable," active recreation. Active recreation acreage does not include open space, trails or other facilities which have limited use or access.

The following analysis shows that, although some areas of the Town of Loomis may appear to be adequately served, there are other areas that are very deficient in park facilities due to the distances from either the parks themselves or from the particular facility. This section reviews the two planning areas: their present and future populations; level of park and recreational services; available school acreage; and suggests priorities for further acquisition and/or development.

### **1) Park Acreage Needs**

In meeting the recreation needs of the Town of Loomis, it is necessary to assess such needs quantitatively. By using County and the proposed Town standards of five acres per 1,000 population, Tables 5.1 and 5.2 were developed. These tables illustrate present and future recreation needs of the Town of Loomis. For purposes of park and recreation planning analysis, park and recreation acreage needs have been assessed for the North and South Planning Areas and the community as a whole. (See Planning Areas Map.)

**Table 5.1**  
**Neighborhood and Community Park Acres Needed by Planning Area**

Year	Total Active Park Acres @ 5 Acres/1,000 Population	Neighborhood Park Acres @ 3 Acres/1,000 Population		Community Park Acres @ 2 Acres/1,000 Population	
		North	South	North	South
1996	30	12.6	5.4	8.4	3.6
2000	34.4	14.4	6.2	9.6	4.2
2005	40.5	17	7.3	11.4	4.8
2010	48.2	20.2	8.7	13.5	5.8

**Table 5.2**  
**Total Required Park and Recreation Facilities by Planning Area**

Facility Type	1996		2000		2005		2010	
	Planning Areas		Planning Areas		Planning Areas		Planning Areas	
	North	South	North	South	North	South	North	South
Tot Lots 1 per 1,000 Pop.	4.20	1.80	4.80	2.00	5.60	2.40	6.70	2.90
Playground 1 per 3,000 Pop.	1.40	0.60	1.60	0.70	1.90	0.80	2.20	0.90
Tennis Court 1 per 6,000 Pop.	0.70	0.30	0.80	0.30	0.90	0.40	1.50	0.50
Basketball Court 1 per 6,000 Pop.	0.70	0.30	0.80	0.30	0.90	0.40	1.50	0.50
Hardball Field 1 per 3,000 Pop.	1.40	0.60	1.60	0.70	1.90	0.80	2.20	0.90
Hiking, Horse Trails 1 mi. per 1,000 Pop.	4.20	1.80	4.80	2.00	5.60	2.40	6.70	2.80
Youth Soccer Field 1 per 2,000 Pop.	2.10	0.90	2.40	1.00	2.80	1.20	3.40	1.40
Adult Soccer Field 1 per 2,000 Pop.	2.10	0.90	2.40	1.00	2.80	1.20	3.40	1.40
Golf Course 1 per 50,000 Pop.	0.08	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.11	0.04	0.13	0.05

By using a standard of five acres of active park lands per 1,000 persons, current population data and other appropriate information such as the school acreage available for recreation, Tables 5.1 and 5.2, have been constructed comparing recreation acreage needs with existing recreation acreage.

The analysis of park and recreation facilities in this Town includes acreage and facilities found in the local schools. It is generally recognized, however, that school sites have significant restrictions and limitations regarding public use. Therefore, although schools are a recreation resource that should be incorporated and considered a part of the community, it would be unwise to equate school/recreation acreage with that of public parks. Consequently, the total acreage needs of the Town and of the planning areas will discount the specific acres and facilities available at the school sites in calculating acres of park lands required. The City of Rocklin has recently completed a study of the relative availability of community recreation facilities on school grounds. In this study, the City found that for year around schools, there are significant restrictions to the public's open use and enjoyment of these facilities. The estimated amount of time in which the public could use these facilities was conservatively estimated at 30% of the time. For "normal" schedule, seasonal schools, the average availability of community recreation facilities was estimated at 45%. These are the percentages of use which will be used to consider school recreational facilities in calculating the overall quantities of park lands and facilities needed in the Town of Loomis.

**The North Planning Area:** Figures for the North Planning Area indicate a relatively large population gain with a current active park recreation acreage need of **21 acres** (12.6 acres of neighborhood parks and 8.4 acres of community parks). Projected population growth for the year 2005 is 4,640 persons with a projected recreation acreage need of **28 acres**. There are currently several developed school sites in the north area. However, even with these sites, this area is deficient in both acreage and in facilities. In general, at this time, an additional one acre over and above the acreage provided at the three school sites and at Sunrise-Loomis Park is needed, and a total of 1.8 acres of additional park land is needed to serve the area's population by the year 2005.

**The South Planning Area:** Presently in the South Planning Area there are no developed parks. Franklin Elementary and Placer School partially serve the need for this area however, this area is deficient in both acreage and in facilities when compared against the recommended standards. At the present time, this area has an estimated population of 1,810 persons, with a park acreage need of **nine acres**. Approximately 10 acres of neighborhood and community park land are needed by 2005.

Currently, as a community, the Town of Loomis is deficient in developed recreation acreage by 7.9 acres and deficient in passive park/open space acreage by 30 acres. If no new parks are developed, projected acreage needs for the year 2005 indicates an increased deficiency of 58.9 acres total.

Analysis of recreation needs based upon overall acreage requirements is only a part of determining the ultimate park needs and requirements of the Service Area. Additional factors must be considered such as population densities, neighborhood service areas, accessibility of available sites, population characteristics, and the recreation needs survey results. The following section continues this analysis.

In addition to determining overall recreation needs in terms of acreage, it is also valuable to determine acreage needs on the basis of specific facility size or type. Table 5.1 indicates the need for neighborhood and community parks within each Planning Area and the community as a whole. Park acreage need was determined based on Placer County and NRPA standards of five total acres of active park lands per 1,000 population--three acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks and two acres per 1,000 population for community parks. (See Table 5.1, Neighborhood and Community Park Acres Needed by Planning Area.)

#### **a) Neighborhood Park Needs**

The projected population figures for the North Planning Area indicate a current neighborhood park need of 12.6 acres and a future year 2010 need of 20.2 acres. (See Table 5.1.)

The projected population figures for the South Planning Area indicate a current neighborhood park need of 5.4 acres and a future year 2010 need of 8.7 acres. (See Table 5.1.)

#### **b) Community Park Needs**

Presently, the only community park accessible to Loomis residents is located outside of the Town's boundaries. Using the strict application of parks needed as recommended by the County and proposed Town standards, the Town presently needs community park acreage in the amount of 8.4 acres. Community park needs increase substantially in the next decade. Population figures indicate a 13.5 acre need for community park acreage by the year 2010. (See Table 5.1.)

### **2) Facility Needs**

Facility needs were determined using the NPRA (National Park and Recreation Association) and Placer County standards. These standards should always be used as guidelines, taking into account each community's unique characteristics, needs, interests, and traditions. In addition, it is important to note that they represent minimums, not maximums. Using these standards as a guideline for the next 10 years, park and recreation facility needs for the Town of Loomis are shown in Tables 5.1 and 5.2, and further described and explained below.

It appears that the Town most needs active park lands with playgrounds, athletic fields and court facilities. Currently, the Town has only the use of the pool at Del Oro High School and limited accessibility to other meeting places and private halls for recreation activities and other programs.

In addition to a handful of facilities present at the Town's only park (Sunrise-Loomis), many more facilities exist at area schools. However, school facilities cannot entirely fill the need for the parks, since public access is restricted (especially during school hours, and occasionally during non-school hours). It is clear that more facilities are needed as well as additional park acreage for both active and passive park lands. Considering these factors, Tables 5.1 and 5.2 display both the needed park acreage and the recreation facilities needed based on the recommended standards. (Refer also to Appendix B.)

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-14**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS  
ADOPTING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND APPROVING AN AMENDMENT  
TO THE GENERAL PLAN, THE PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Town, the applicant, has proposed to revise the General Plan with a Parks and Recreation Element for the entire town; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 21, November 25, December 16, 1997, and January 20 and February 17, 1998 the Planning Commission conducted a continued public hearing on the draft Parks and Recreation Element for a recommendation to the Town Council, at which times any person interested in the matter was given an opportunity to be heard; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission reviewed and considered the staff report relating to said application, the Draft Parks and Recreation Element, and the written and oral evidence presented to the Planning Commission in support of and in opposition to the application; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 17, 1998, the Planning Commission found the proposed Element compatible with the goals, policies and land uses of the Town of Loomis and complies with State law regarding General Plans and recommended its adoption by the Town Council; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 1998 and April 14, 1998 the Town Council conducted a noticed public hearing on the proposed Parks and Recreation Element and Background Report, at which time any person interested in the matter was given an opportunity to be heard; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 14, 1998 the Town Council reviewed and considered the staff reports relating to the Draft Parks and Recreation Element and the Background Report, and the written and oral evidence presented to the Town Council at the public hearing; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. An initial study has been conducted by the Town to evaluate the potential for adverse environmental impact of the proposed project. Considering the record as a whole, there is not evidence before the Council that the proposed project will have potential for an adverse effect on wildlife resources or the habitat upon which the wildlife depends.
2. The Town Council has, on the basis of substantial evidence contained in the record before the Council as a whole, rebutted the presumption of adverse effect contained in these regulations at subsection (d) of 14 California Code

of Regulations section 753.5.

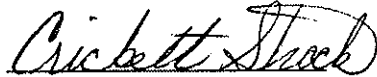
3. The Negative Declaration is approved, and staff is directed to file an appropriate Notice of Determination and a Certificate of Fee Exemption with the County Clerk.
4. The proposed General Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals, policies and land uses in the Town of Loomis General Plan.
5. The General Plan Amendment, of a Parks and Recreation Element, is hereby adopted by the Town Council.

ADOPTED this 14th day of April, 1998, by the following vote:

AYES: Boberg, DeWing, Florance, Gade, Morillas

NOES: None

ABSENT: None



Town Clerk

  
Mayor

## EXHIBIT A

### RECOMMENDED FINDINGS:

#### Negative Declaration

1. The initial study did not identify any significant environmental impacts.

#### General Plan Amendment

1. The General Plan Amendment to add a Parks and Recreation Element is compatible with the objectives, policies, and existing land use of the Town of Loomis and is consistent with the General Plan of the Town of Loomis.
2. The General Plan Amendment to add a Parks and Recreation Element complies with State General Plan law.